

Secret

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Part. II. SECTION

(1-2) (1-14)
NOTES /CORRESPONDENCE

File No. *PS/ 321/ 21/70*
Volume

Indexed on _____

Initials _____

Subject

*Collection of information regarding
Netaji's Secret journey from Calcutta to Europe in
1941.*

Record ~~A~~B Destroy in *1981*
Record C.

To be noted _____ in Sectional Note Book
Not to be noted _____

Initials of S.O. | Suptd *WV 24/7/75*

Initials of Clerk *P2 24-7-75*



51007

Previous References

Later References

DECLASSIFIED

(Gautam Gupta)
(GAUTAM GUPTA)
उप सचिव (आरएम)
By Secretary (ARM)
मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi



P11/321/21/70

Secret

Ministry of External Affairs
(Pak-I Registry)

.....

D.No.7507/PI/70

-

F.R.

- S No (1)

Please put up a draft on the lines of
earlier letter.

Sd/-A.K. Ray
13.7.70

Pak-I

Two drafts ^{are} submitted for approval.

In this connection, it is submitted that
previous reference quoted in the FR is not available
in Pak-I, Pak-II or PSP Sections. (The diaries for
this period maintained by PA to the then JS(Pak) ~~are~~
also ⁱⁿ not traceable). However, as the subject matter
comes under the heading 'Cultural affairs' which is
being dealt with by Pak-II Registry, it is suggested
that after issue of the drafts, papers may please be
transferred to Pak-II Registry.

Phulolu
14/7/70

Janu
14/7/70

Thema. Same.

anlay
15/7/70

Pak-II

S.Nos (2)&(3) - Issues

Pak. II Registry

D. 10520-P11/70 (4) F.R.

I agree with para 3. No harm in
asking F.O.

Sd/- A.K. Ray
JS(Pak)
18/7

Papers pl.

Sd/- I.P. Khosla
JS(Pak)
19/7

Submitted pl.

pur
20/8

20/8/70
M. Mike to Shri Dayal
as directed by JS. 20.8.70

4608-981 (are) 70
15/7

5865-DS(Pak)/20
15/7/70/US(P-II)

918
21/7
Pak II Registry

JS(Pak)

PA & JS. any H.
Pak II

PA & JS. 16/7

Thiru B R
29/7

This is Pak II

W (Pak II)

Dst Pak
vs Pak II

Pub. & Registry.

S. No (5) - Issue

✓ D. 11037 P. 11/70

(6) F.R.

For Information pl.

mi
4/9

Humar ap
4/8/70

D. 11436 P. 11/70

(7) F.R.

h. Bl

D.R.A.

mi
15/9.

16/8/70

Mhm
16.9.70

ms Dax

S. No (8) - Issue

Dy. No. 6-M (1D+1T)/20

3/7/70

Grams : SUVASBOS



Telephone : 47-3745

From the
Executive Director

NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU
AN INSTITUTE OF HISTORY AND POLITICS
NETAJI BHAWAN

38/2, LALA LAJPAT RAI ROAD, CALCUTTA 20

No. 6/951/70

June 24, 1970.

Mr. Dinesh Singh,
Minister of External Affairs,
Government of India,
New Delhi - 1.

Foreign Minister's

Office

Date

No. 59

/F.M.

Dear Mr. Singh,

This is with reference to my letter to the Prime Minister No. 6/874/68 of April 19, 1968 and the reply that I received from the Ministry of External Affairs by their letter No. 2529-JS (Pak)/68 of May 10, 1968, copies of which I am enclosing for your ready reference. I have had no further communication from the Ministry in the matter.

2. It has now become essential for me accompanied by one or two members of Netaji Research Bureau to visit West Pakistan for about two weeks for recording statements of former associates of Netaji Bose for completing our documentation on his life generally and a history of the Azad Hind Movement in particular. I shall therefore be grateful if you will kindly advise me as to how I should proceed in the matter. It will of course be necessary to get my passport and those of others who may accompany me endorsed for Pakistan by the Government of India, to have a foreign exchange permit and to obtain the necessary visa from the Government of Pakistan.

3. It is my belief that the Government of Pakistan will render full cooperation in a purely historical mission of this kind.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Sisir K. Bose

Encl : Two

P. sent to the lines of the earlier letter.
Page-I

13/7

From the
Executive Director

No.6/874/68

April 19, 1968.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi,
Prime Minister,
Prime Minister's House,
New Delhi

Dear Shrimati Gandhi,

For quite some time now we have been trying to collect and verify facts regarding Netaji's secret journey from Calcutta to Europe in 1941. We have now reached a stage when we need to record statements of a number of persons in Pakistan. I had tried some time ago to contact one very important person in this connection through usual correspondence. But no response was forthcoming. It is clear that we must have the cooperation of the Government of Pakistan in the matter. I expect they will be willing to cooperate in a purely historical work of this kind.

My purpose in writing to you to seek your advice as to how the approach to the Pakistan Government should be made. You may prefer to take the matter up with the Government of Pakistan, on governmental level. If not we shall do as advised.

The work may make it necessary for one or two of us to visit West Pakistan for a limited period.

I shall be grateful for an early reply,

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
Dr. Sisir K. Bose

Copy

P.R.S. Mani,
Joint Secretary (Pak)

Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi-1.

No.2529-JS (Pak)/68

May 10, 1968

Dear Dr. Bose,

Kindly refer to your letter No.6/874/68n dated April 19, 1968 to the Prime Minister on the subject of collection of information regarding Netaji's secret journey from Calcutta to Europe in 1941.

2. In normal times, one could expect that the Pakistan Government will render all cooperation in this matter but in the present circumstances, it seems advisable to first consult our High Commissioner who is being approached in the matter by us. A reply will be sent to you as soon as we hear from our High Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- P.R.S. Mani

Dr.Sisir K. Bose,
Executive Director,
Netaji Research Bureau,
Netaji Bhawan,
38/2, Lala Lajpat Rai Road,
Calcutta-20.

A.K. Ray,
Joint Secretary(Pak)

No. D.7507/PI/70

July 16, 1970.

Dear Dr. Bose,

✓
Kindly refer to your letter No.6/951/70
✓
of June 24, 1970, to the Foreign Minister.
2. We are considering the various aspects
of the matter with great care in view of the
importance of the subject. It is, however,
difficult for us to predict response of the
Government of Pakistan to even a "purely historical
mission of this kind" when the present political
atmosphere in that country is highly charged with
various emotions and proclivities.

Yours sincerely,

(A.K. Ray)
9c

Dr. Sisir K. Bose,
Executive Director,
Netaji Research Bureau,
Netaji Bhavan,
38/2, Lala Lajpat Rai Road,
Calcutta-20.

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(5751)

A.K. Ray,
JS(Pak)

SECRET

No. D.7507/PI/70

July 16, 1970.

I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Dr. Bose and also the copies of the previous correspondence as sent by him.

2. We are unable to lay our hands on our papers on the subject. It, however, appears from Shri Mani's letter (which Shri Bose has sent to us) that our High Commissioner was approached in the matter.
3. Would you kindly check whether there are any papers on this subject at your end and what the action taken on them was.
4. It seems to us that the attitude of the Pakistan Government as assessed by Shri Mani will not have changed at all. Kindly confirm.

(A.K. Ray)

Shri A.S. Chib,
Deputy High Commissioner,
Islamabad.

Jul 18
1970
5350



N. Dayal
Second Secretary

(4/

SECRET

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD

D. 9022-P/70
19/8/70

5758-DS(Pak)/70.

11/8/70

August 11, 1970.

By No. 10528 Pak II Registry/70

Dated 19.8.70

No. ISL(POL)501/2/68

Dear Shri Ray,

In the absence of the DHC, may I reply to your letter No. D.7507/PI/70 of the 16th July?

2. I enclose copies of the correspondence on Dr. Bose's request between Shri Mani and Shri Sen during 1968. The High Commissioner, as you will note, had contacted ex-Information Secretary Altaf Gauhar in the matter. No substantive reply, however, was received from the Pak Government. We do not even know if Mr. Gauhar did eventually consult Chaudhary, the Pakistan P.R.O. at Cairo.

3. I showed your letter to the High Commissioner who suggests that we might make further enquiries with the Foreign Office. This we shall do. We are, however, sceptical that the Pak Government "will render full cooperation in a purely historic mission of this kind".

With kind regards

Yours sincerely,

Naveed Dayal

(N. Dayal)

Shri A.K. Ray,
Joint Secretary (Pak)
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

I agree with Para 3.

Mr. Harmin asking for.

Encl. As above

of M. 18/8

Pak II

The papers were given to Pak II on 20.7.70. They may be sent to Pak II.

W. BR
19/8/70

(7)

SECRET

Copy of letter No.2226-JS(Pak)/68 dated 26th April 1968 from Shri PR.S. Mani, Joint Secy.(Pak) Min. of E.A. New Delhi to Shri S. Sen, High Commissioner of India, Islamabad.

I enclose a copy of a letter received by Prime Minister from Dr. SISIR K. BOSE, Executive Director, Netaji Bureau, Calcutta.

2. In the present context of relations, the Pakistan Government may not render cooperation in the matter of providing information to collect and verify facts regarding Netaji's secret journey from Calcutta to Europe in 1941. It is possible that a number of persons in Pakistan particularly ex-INA personnel will be willing to assist the Netaji Research Bureau in this matter.

3. I shall be grateful if you could kindly informally approach Mr. Altaf Gauhar, Information Secretary and let us know.

COPY

From the
Executive Director

NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU
AN INSTITUTE OF HISTORY AND POLITICS
NETAJI BHAVAN

32, Lala Lajpat Rai Road, Calcutta 20.

No. 6/874/68

April 19, 1968.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi,
Prime Minister,
Prime Minister's House,
New Delhi.

Dear Shrimati Gandhi,

For quite some time now we have been trying to collect and verify facts regarding Netaji's secret journey from Calcutta to Europe in 1941. We have now reached a stage when we need to record statements of a number of persons in Pakistan. I had tried some time ago to contact one very important person in this connection through usual correspondence. But no response was forthcoming. It is clear that we must have the cooperation of the Government of Pakistan, in the matter. I expect they will be willing to cooperate in a purely historical work of this kind.

My purpose in writing to you is to seek your advice as to how the approach to the Pakistan Government should be made. You may prefer to take the matter up with the Government of Pakistan on Governmental level. If not, we shall do as advised.

The work may make it necessary for one or two of us to visit West Pakistan for a limited period. I shall be grateful for an early reply.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

sd/ Dr. Sisir K. Bose

COPY

PERSONAL

High Commission of India
ISLAMABAD

No.ISL/HC-240/68

June 1,1968.

I attach a copy of a letter which I have sent to Delhi about the assistance which selected person in Pakistan can give to Netaji Research Bureau. I should be grateful if you would kindly write the promised letter to Chaudhary and then let me know the outcome.

sd/- S. Sen

Mr.Altaf Gauhar,
S.Q.A., S.Pk.,T.Pk., C.S.P.,
Secretary,
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting,
Govt. of Pakistan,
Secretariat No.III,
Rawalpindi.

SECRET

1. Copy of letter No.ISL/HC-236/68 dated June 2,1968 from Shri S. Sen, High Commissioner of India, Islamabad to Shri Narendra Singh, OSD, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

Please refer to Mani's letter No.2226-JS(Pak)/68 of April 26,1968. I have discussed this matter with Mr.Altaf Gauhar and he was of the view that it would be difficult to find the right people to help compiling material for Netaji Research Bureau. However, he kindly agreed to consult Chaudhary,Public Relations Officer, Pakistan Embassy at Cairo,who is supposed to know all about it.

Secondly, Mr.Altaf Gauhar advised that while there was no objection to this kind of scientific research being undertaken with Pakistan's cooperation, no publicity should be given to this matter simply because Netaji's background etc. has many political implications which are not liked by several political elements. It is best, therefore, not to give any publicity to such help as selected Pakistanis may give in this matter,as otherwise a political controversy may well start on it.

I am reminding Mr.Altaf Gauhar about ^{his} ~~their~~ kind offer to help, and shall write to you again after has made the necessary enquiries. I shall also mention this matter quietly to the Foreign Office as indeed was suggested by Gauhar himself.

SECRET

II.

Copy of letter No.PI/102/14/68 dated ^{10th} ~~28th~~ June 1968 from Shri Narendra Singh, OSD, Min. of E.A. (in reply to letter above)

A line to acknowledge your letter No.ISL/HC-23/68 dated June 2,1968.

2. We shall await further information and keep quiet on this matter
-

(5)
D.P. Pasricha
Under Secretary (Pak-II)

SECRET

(11)

No. PII/321/21/70

August 29, 1970.

My dear Dayal,

✓ smc(w)
Please refer to your letter No. ISL(POL)
501/2/68 dated August 11, 1970, to Shri A.K. Ray.

2. J.S. agrees with what you say in para 3
of your letter. There is, however, no harm in
asking the Foreign Office.

Yours sincerely,

(D.P. Pasricha)
oh

Shri N. Dayal,
Second Secretary,
High Commission of India,
Islamabad.

Handwritten: 29/8

Indian Express 29/8/72

(12)

No move to bring Netaji's ashes

By Our Parliamentary
Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Aug 28.

While the Government has appointed a commission to go into the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Indian Embassy officials in Tokyo attended a memorial service for him.

The contradiction between the two attitudes of the Government was brought out in the Lok Sabha today by the PSP member, Mr Samar Guha.

But the Minister for External Affairs, Mr Swaran Singh, was ready with an explanation. He said the memorial service was held traditionally in a Tokyo temple. It was thought that if the Indian Embassy officials did not attend it, the Japanese might consider that Netaji was being dishonoured.

He had earlier denied that the ashes alleged to be those of Netaji were being brought to India from the Tokyo temple.

Around this simple statement, made during discussion of a call-attention motion, revolved a great deal of controversy over propriety and procedure. The motion referred to a news report. Before the item was even taken up, there were a number of objections.

Among the first to object was Mr S. M. Bannerjee (CPI). He said since the Government had appointed a commission, under Mr G. D. Khosla, to inquire into what had happened to Netaji, the motion about the "reported decision of the Government to bring the alleged ashes of Netaji" should not be discussed. He and several other members said there could be nothing like "alleged ashes." Mr Guha changed the words into "ashes" alleged to be those of Netaji.

The Speaker, Mr G. S. Dhillon, agreed that the point was valid. But he thought that the Government should have an opportunity to make its position clear. After that Mr Swaran Singh, Minister for External Affairs, made a brief statement in which he said that "there is no truth in this report and Government has taken no such decision."

He told Mr B. K. Daschowdhury (Ind) that no instructions were issued at any time to bring the ashes to India. The Government will await the report of the Khosla Commission. The ashes were in safe custody in a temple.

In view of the replies, Dr Ram Subhag Singh (Cong-O) gave up his right to put a supplementary. When the Speaker was commending him, Mr Ilapal Chowdhury (Cong) wanted to ask a question. Said the Speaker: "If I had the authority to convert Dr Ram Subhag Singh into a lady, I would have allowed you to ask a question."

My No. 11037
Dated 3.9.70
Part II Registration

11/10/72

Ly a

w. Bf
2/8



N. Dayal
Second Secretary

No. ISL(POL)501/2/68

By. No. 11436 (7)
Date 15.9.70
SECRET

(13)
HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD

September 10, 1970.

Dear Shri Pasricha,

Please refer to your letter No. PII/321/21/70 of the 29th August.

2. Yesterday during a meeting with Foreign Office Director Shaikh, I mentioned the desire of the Netaji Research Bureau to conduct some purely historical enquiries in Pakistan. I also requested Pak Government's cooperation in the matter. Since Shaikh replied that the Foreign Office had no papers on the subject, I briefly referred him to the talk held between our former High Commissioner and ex-Information Secretary, Mr. Altaf Gauhar.
3. Shaikh said that the Foreign Office would consider this request. He added, however, that since the Research Bureau's enquiries would probably involve interviewing some Pakistanis who were former acquaintances of Netaji, the Foreign Office's decision in the matter would be assisted if we could supply them with the particulars of the Pakistani nationals likely to be approached.
4. This request of the Director has thrown the ball back into our court; I do not think Pak Government will move until we have communicated to them the particulars of the persons whom the Bureau would consult.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Narayan Dayal
(N. Dayal)

Shri D.P. Pasricha,
Under Secretary (Pak. II)
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

42. Shri T.T.P. Abdullah, Ambassador of India,
Jeddah.
43. Shri G.J. Malik, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Dakar.
44. Shri Muni Lal, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Mogadishu.
45. Shri S. Bikram Shah, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Madrid.
46. Shri K.L. Dalal, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Khartoum.
47. Shri P.R.S. Mani, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Stockholm.
48. Shri M.A. Husain, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Berne.
49. Shri V.A. Kidwai, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Damascus.
50. Dr. P.K. Banerjee, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Bangkok.
51. Shri K.L. Bindra, First Secretary, /C.D.A.
Embassy of India, Tunis.
52. Shri U.S. Bajpai, Ambassador of India,
Ankara.
53. Shri I.J. Bahadur Singh, Ambassador of India,
Cairo (UAR).
54. Shri L.K. Jha, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Washington.
55. Shri D.P. Dhar, Ambassador of India, Moscow.
56. Shri S. Shahabuddin, First Secretary/C.D.A.
Embassy of India, Caracas.
57. Shri J.L. Malhaustra, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Aden.
58. Shri N.P. Alexander, Counsellor of India,
Embassy of India, Belgrade.
59. Dr. Gopal Singh, Ambassador of India,
Embassy of India, Sofia, Bulgaria.
60. Shri A.M. Thomas, High Commissioner of India,
Canberra (Australia).
61. Shri G. Raj, Deputy High Commissioner of India,
Sydney.
62. Shri A.B. Bhadkamkar, High Commissioner of India,
Ottawa.

(8)
PII/321/21/70

(14)
18 Sept., 70

Dr. Sisir K. Bose,
Executive Director,
Netaji Reserach Bureau,
Netaji Bhavan,
38/2, Lala Lajpat Rai Road,
Calcutta-20.

Subject: Proposed visit of the members of
Netaji Research Bureau to Pakistan.

...

Sir,

✓ S. No(2)
In continuation of Shri A.K. Ray's letter
No. D7507/PI/70, dated the 16th July, 1970 on
the above subject I am directed to say on being
approached by our High Commission, the Pakistan
authorities have informed them ^{that} since the Research
Bureau's enquiries would probably involve interviewing
some Pakistanis who were former acquaintances of
Netaji, the Government of Pakistan will consider the
request ~~from~~ for the proposed visit to West Pakistan
only if we could supply them with the particulars
of the Pakistani nationals likely to be approached.
This information may therefore please be furnished
to this Ministry for its onward transmission to
our High Commission at Islamabad to enable them to
approach the Pakistan Government in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

(D.P. Pasricha)
Under Secretary (Pak II).

Issued
18/9